

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

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NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-01 TAR-01

TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01 FEA-01 SCS-03

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FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8024

INFO AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 1427

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CPRS, PFOR, CY, TU, US

SUBJ: AMERICAN INTERESTS IN TURKISH AREA OF CYPRUS

REF: A. NICOSIA 652: B. NICOSIA 650

1. THE TWO TELEGRAMS UNDER REFERENCE INDICATE DILEMMA POSED BY PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE TURKISH-HELD ARE OF CYPRUS WITH RESPECT TO PROTECTION TO US PROPERTY INTERESTS.

2. REF A INDICATES THAT AMERICAN INTERESTS IN NORTHERN CYPRUS HAVE IN VARIOUS WAYS BEEN INFRINGED UPON OR TAKEN OVER AND THAT THERE HAS BEEN NO COMPENSATION FOR OR RESTORATION OF AMERICAN PROPERTY.

3. REF B DESCRIBES REQUEST OF AUTONOMOUS TURKISH-CYPRIOT ADMINISTRATION FOR REGISTRATION OF FOREIGN-OWNED PROPERTY. (A STEP WHICH APPEARS TO US ESSENTIAL IN EVENT OF LATER CLAIMS FOR COMPENSATION OR RESTORATION.)

4. REF A SUGGESTS US MAY BE FORCED TO DENY BENEFITS OF ITS GENERAL CONFIDENTIAL

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PREFERENCES TO TURKEY BECAUSE OF ITS FAILURE TO DEAL EQUITABLY

WITH US PROPERTY, WHILE REF B POINTS TO DIFFICULTY IN WAY OF USING PROCEDURES WHICH GOT (IN EVENT IS CHARGED WITH RESPONSIBILITY) WILL CERTAINLY CITE AS AN EFFORT TO DEAL WITH THE FOREIGN PROPERTY PROBLEM IN A SYSTEMATIC AND EQUITABLE FASHION.

5. IT SEEMS TO US THAT THIS PROBLEM POSES SOME DELICATE AND HIGHLY TECHNICAL QUESTIONS OF INTERNATIONAL LAW AND THAT ANY COURSE OF ACTION MUST BE CAREFULLY PLANNED WITH ADEQUATE RECOURSE TO LEGAL EXPERTISE AS WELL AS A HARDHEADED LOOK AT CONSEQUENCES IN TERMS OF ACTUAL AMERICAN PROPERTY INVOLVED.

6. IT WILL BE EXTREMELY DIFFICULT TO PIN DOWN ULTIMATE RESPONSIBILITY FOR SPECIFIC EVENT AFFECTING AMERICAN PROPERTY IN THE TURKISH ZONE OF CYPRUS SINCE JULY 20, 1974. WE BELIEVE IT MAY BE LONG TIME BEFORE AUTHORITIES ON CYPRUS AND/OR GOT ARE IN POSITION TO MAKE MEANINGFUL DETERMINATIONS AND RESTORE PROPERTY AND/OR PAY COMPENSATION.

7. WITHOUT ATTEMPTING TO SORT OUT AND RESOLVE THE LEGAL ASPECTS AT THIS TIME, WE BELIEVE IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT THE US GOVERNMENT'S INTEREST IN PROTECTING US PROPERTY AND INTERESTS IN CYPRUS BE BROUGHT CLEARLY TO THE ATTENTION OF ALL OFFICIALS INVOLVED, I.E., GOVERNMENT OF CYPRUS, TURKISH CYPRIOT, AND TURKISH MILITARY AND CIVIL OFFICIALS ON CYPRUS. (THIS MUST OBVIOUSLY BE DONE IN FORM THAT IS APPROPRIATE TO STATUS OF US GOVERNMENT RELATIONSHIP WITH EACH.) WE WILL BE PREPARED HERE, AS WE HAVE DONE IN THE PAST, TO FOLLOW UP ACTION TAKEN BY EMBASSY NICOSIA WITH AUTHORITIES THERE AND TO REGISTER WITH GOT CASES WHERE THERE HAS BEEN INTERFERENCE WITH US PROPERTY.

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